THE DAILY PROGRESS.

VOL. VI. RALEIGH, TUESDAY, FEB. 14, 1865 NO. 81

BY J. L. PENNINGTON & CO.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

The following are the only terms of subscription to the DAILY and WEEKLY PROGRESS:

Daily paper,	1 month	$10 00
"	3 months	20 00
"	6 months	40 00
Weekly paper,	3 months	10 00
"	6 months	20 00

Always to be paid in advance, and paper stopped when the time paid for expires.

JOB PRINTING.—Having a Job Office equal to any in the City or State, we are prepared to execute all orders for Book and Job Printing with neatness and dispatch.

WHY WE CAN'T HAVE PEACE.

We have received the following documents, from Richmond, gotten up, we suppose, to show that we must "fight it out." We publish them as a part of the record of the times:

MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Confederate States of America:

Having recently received a written notification which satisfied me that the President of the United States was disposed to confer informally with unofficial agents, that might be sent by me with a view to the restoration of peace, I requested the Hon. Alexander H. Stephens, the Hon. R. M. T. Hunter, and the Hon. John A. Campbell to proceed through our lines and to hold conference with Mr. Lincoln, or such persons as he might depute to represent him.

I herewith submit, for the information of Congress, the report of the eminent citizens above named, showing that the enemy refused to enter into negotiations with the Confederate States, or any one of them separately, or to give to our people any other terms or guaranties than those which a conqueror may grant or to permit us to have peace on any other basis than unconditional submission to their rule, coupled with the acceptance of their recent legislation, including an amendment to the constitution for the emancipation of all the negro slaves; and with the right on the part of the Federal Congress, to legislate on the subject of the relations between the white and black population of each State. Such is, as I understand, the effect of the amendment to the constitution which has been adopted by the Congress of the United States.

JEFFERSON DAVIS

February 6th, 1865.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS.

RICHMOND, VA., 5th February, 1865.

To the President of the Confederate States:

SIR:—Under your letter of appointment of the 28th ult., we proceeded to seek an "informal conference" with Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, upon the subject mentioned in the letter. The conference was granted, and took place on the 3d inst., on board of a steamer anchored in Hampton Roads, where we met President Lincoln and the Hon. Mr. Seward, Secretary of State of the United States. It continued for several hours, and was both full and explicit. We learned from them that the message of President Lincoln to the Congress of the United States, in December last, explains clearly and distinctly his sentiments as to the terms, conditions and method of proceeding, by which peace can be secured to the people, and we were not informed that they would be modified or altered to obtain that end. We understood from him that no terms or proposals of any treaty or agreement looking to an ultimate settlement, would be entertained or made by him with the authorities of the Confederate States, because that would be a recognition of their existence as a separate power, which under no circumstances would be done; and for like reasons that no such terms would be entertained by him from the States separately; that no extended truce or armistice (as at present advised) would be granted or allowed without a satisfactory assurance, in advance, of a complete restoration of the authority of the constitution and laws of the United States over all places within the States of the Confederacy. That whatever consequences may follow from the re-establishment of that authority, must be accepted. But that individuals, subject to pains and penalties under the laws of the United States, might rely upon a very liberal use of the power confided to him to remit those pains and penalties, if peace be restored.

During the conference, the proposed amendments to the constitution of the United States, adopted by Congress on the 31st ult., were brought to our notice. These amendments provide that neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except for crime, should exist within the United States, or any place within their jurisdiction, and that Congress should have power to enforce this amendment by appropriate legislation.

Of all the correspondence that preceded the conference herein mentioned and leading to the same, you have heretofore been informed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servants,

(Signed,) ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS,
R. M. T. HUNTER,
J. A. CAMPBELL.

Extract from Mr. Lincoln's message of December last, referred to in the foregoing report:

The public purpose to re-establish and maintain the national authority is unchanged, and, as we believe, unchangeable. The manner of continuing the effort remains to choose. On careful consideration of all the evidence accessible, it seems to me that no attempt at negotiation with the insurgent leader could result in any good. He would accept of nothing short of the severance of the Union. His declarations to this effect are explicit and oft repeated. He does not attempt to deceive us. He offers us no excuse to deceive ourselves. We cannot voluntarily yield it. Between him and us the issue is distinct, simple and inflexible. It is an issue which can only be tried by war, and decided by victory. If we yield we are beaten. If the Southern people fail him he is beaten; either way it would be the victory and defeat following war. What is true, however, of him who heads the insurgent cause, is not necessarily true of those who follow. Although he cannot re-accept the Union, they can. Some of them we know already desire peace and reunion. The number of such may increase. They can at any moment have peace simply by laying down their arms and submitting to the national authority under the constitution. After so much the government could not, if it would, maintain war against them. The loyal people would not sustain or allow it. If questions should remain, we would adjust them by the peaceful means of legislation, conference, courts and votes. Operating only in constitutional and lawful channels, some certain and other possible questions are and would be beyond the executive power to adjust, as for instance, the admission of members into Congress, and whatever might require the appropriation of money. The executive power would be greatly diminished by the cessation of actual war. Pardons and remissions of forfeiture, however, would still be within Executive control.—In what spirit and temper this control would be exercised, can be fairly judged of by the past. A year ago, general pardon and amnesty, upon specified terms, were offered to all except certain designated classes, and it was at the same time made known that the excepted classes were still within contemplation of special clemency. During the year many availed themselves of the general provision, and many more would, only that the signs of bad faith in some led to such precautionary measures as rendered the practical process less easy and certain. During the same time, also, special pardons have been granted to individuals of excepted classes, and no voluntary application has been denied.

Thus practically the door has been for a full year open to all, except such as were not in condition to make free choice, that is, such as were in custody or under constraint. It is still so open to all, but the time may come, probably will come, when public duty shall demand that it be closed, and that in lieu, more vigorous measures than heretofore shall be adopted.

In presenting the abandonment of armed resistance to the national authority on the part of the insurgents, as the only indispensable condition to ending the war on the part of the government, I retract nothing heretofore said as to slavery. I repeat the declaration made a year ago, and that while I remain in my present position, I shall not attempt to retract or modify the emancipation proclamation. Nor shall I return to slavery any person who is free by the terms of that proclamation, or by any of the acts of Congress.

If the people should, by whatever mode or means, make it an Executive duty to re-enslave such persons, another, and not I, must be their instrument to perform it.

In stating a single condition of peace, I mean simply to say that the war will cease on the part of the government, whenever it shall have ceased on the part of those who began it.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

[REPORTS OF THE PRESS ASSOCIATION.]

An Appeal from Gen Lee to Absentees and Deserters.

RICHMOND, Feb. 12.—Gen. Lee has issued General Orders offering pardon to all deserters and men improperly absent, who return to their commands within twenty days from the publication of this order, at the headquarters of the department in which they may be. No general amnesty will again be granted, and those who refuse to accept the pardon now offered, or shall hereafter desert, shall suffer such punishment as courts may impose, and no application for clemency will be entertained. The order closes as follows: Taking new resolution from the fate which our enemies intend for us, let every man devote all his energies to the common defence—Our resources wisely and vigorously employed are ample, and with a brave army, sustained by a determined, united people, success, with God's assistance, cannot be doubtful. The advantage of the enemy will have but little value if we do not permit them to impair our resolution to use them. Oppose constancy to adversity, fortitude to suffering, courage to danger, with the firm assurance that He who gave freedom to our fathers will bless the efforts of their children to preserve it.

Later from the North.

RICHMOND, Feb. 13.—Northern papers of the 10th contain very little of interest.

The St. Alban's raiders are to be delivered up to the United States.

Operations against Wilmington will soon be commenced.

A report of the conference at Fortress Monroe would be submitted on the 10th.

News of peace movements caused much talk in England, which had a depressing effect on the cotton market.

Gold unchanged.

From Wilmington.

WILMINGTON, Feb. 13.—Considerable skirmishing on our lines at Sugar Loaf on Saturday. Three attacks in force were made, which were handsomely repulsed with considerable loss to the enemy.

During the attack the enemy's whole fleet opened on Hoke's left. Our casualties about 20. The same day one monitor threw several shells at Fort Anderson, killing one and wounding one. All quiet since.

The Legislature of Georgia is to assemble at Macon to-morrow.

NEGRO AUCTION AND Commission HOUSE!

ON THE FIRST DAY OF JANUARY NEXT, AT the house immediately in front of the Post Office, formerly occupied as the Progress office, on Fayetteville Street, in the City of Raleigh, the subscribers will establish an

Auction and Commission House

For the Sale of SLAVES.

We have provided *safe* and comfortable quarters, and will be as moderate in our charges for board, &c., as the times will permit.

With an experience of twenty years in the trade, and the advantages of an extensive acquaintance, we flatter ourselves that we understand the business and, with the assurance of quick sales and prompt returns, respectfully solicit public patronage.

Dec 19-dtf WM. F. ASKEW & CO.

COUNTY TRUSTEES.

WE ARE AUTHORIZED TO ANNOUNCED C. P. WILDER, a candidate for the office of County Trustee. If elected he pledges himself to discharge the duties of the office faithfully. Feb 9-td

Confederate copy, daily, till day; Standard weekly till day.

WE ARE AUTHORIZED TO ANNOUNCE JOHN W. MITCHELL a candidate for Superior Court Clerk of Granville County at the ensuing election in August next. Feb 2-d3w3*

W. R. RICHARDSON & CO.,

BROKERS AND STOCK AUCTIONEERS,

RESPECTFULLY SOLICIT CONSIGNMENTS.

Oct 20- RALEIGH N C.

COUNTY TRUSTEE.

WE ARE REQUESTED TO ANNOUNCE MR. J. F. HUTCHINS as a candidate for re-election as County Trustee, at the approaching February Term of Wake County Court. Feb 8-dtd

---

WE ARE AUTHORIZED TO ANNOUNCE CAPT. L. E. RIGGAN as a candidate for the office of County Trustee, at the next February Term for Wake County Court. If elected he pledges himself to to a faithful discharge of his duties. (Jan 27 d3t&w4t*)

SELECT SCHOOL.

MISS MOLLIE W. FINCH.

At the residence of Mr Wm H Finch Feb 2-tf

☞ **Business Notice.**—The expenses attending the publication of the PROGRESS are enormous and have to be paid promptly, and we must do a cash business or none at all. We must demand cash from all save those business men of the city who have accounts with the office, and parties at a distance are expected to remit promptly when bills are sent. We have no time to collect bills and don't want to make any charges. There never was a better time to pay debts than the present, and all who owe us are requested and expected to pay at once.

☞ **Job Printing.**—Having an abundance of material and good workmen we are prepared to execute all orders for JOB PRINTING with dispatch.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

NEGROES AT AUCTION.

ON THURSDAY NEXT, 16TH INST., WE WILL sell four YOUNG NEGRO WOMEN and two MEN.

CREECH & LITCHFORD,
Auctioneers.

Feb 14-3t

Adj't and Insp'r Gen's Office,
RICHMOND, Sept. 11, 1863.

GENERAL ORDERS,
No. 122.

III. THE FOLLOWING ACT OF CONGRESS is published for the information of all concerned:

"Every person not subject to the Rules and articles of war, who shall procure or entice a soldier of the Confederate States to desert, or who shall purchase from any soldier his arms, *uniform, clothing, or any part thereof*, shall upon legal conviction, be fined, at the discretion of the Court having cognizance of the same, in any sum not exceeding three hundred dollars, and be imprisoned not exceeding one year."

By order of the Secretary of War.

(Signed.) S. COOPER.
Adj't and Insp'r Gen'l.

HEADQUARTERS RESERVE N. C.
Raleigh, February 10,

Official:
JNO. W. HINSDALE,
A. A. Gen'l.

Feb 14 d&w7t

*** State papers copy seven times.

Headquarters Reserve, N. C.
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Raleigh, Dec. 14, 1864.

General Order,
No 4.

I. MAJOR C S STRINGFELLOW ASSISTANT Adjutant General C S P A. will relieve Capt. Jno W. Hinsdale, Assistant Adjutant General of Reserves of N. C. and the latter officer will proceed to join the 3rd Regiment Reserves N. C., as its Colonel, he having been duly elected to that office on the 3d of January, 1865.

The Lieutenant General Commanding, in taking leave of Colonel Hinsdale, tenders his warm congratulations on his promotion, and earnestly hopes that the intelligence, zeal and gallantry which has characterized his service as a Staff officer may be matured by experience into greater usefulness in his new and more extended sphere.

(Signed) H. H. HOLMES,
Lt. Gen'l Comd'g.

Official:
CHAS. S. STRINGFELLOW,
Major & A. A. Gen'l.

Feb. 14 d&w7t

*** State papers copy seven times.

Headquarters Reserve, North Carolina,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Raleigh, February 13th, 1865.

GENERAL ORDER,
No 3.

I. ENROLING OFFICERS IN THE STATE OF North Carolina will make dilligent enquiry in their respective counties for the arms, &c., called for in Gen. Lee's appeal of January 25, 1865.

They are required to receive all arms brought forward under this appeal, and restoring them to Capt. A. W. Lawrence, an Ordnace officer Reserve, N. C.

By command of Lt. Gen'l HOLMES:

JOHN W. HINSDALE,
Asst. Adj. General.

HEADQ'RS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA.
January 25, 1825.

TO arm and equip an additional force of cavalry, there is need of carbines, revolvers, pistols, saddles, and other accoutrements of mounted men. Arms and equipments of the kind desired are believed to be held by citizens in sufficient numbers to supply our wants. Many keep them as trophies, and some with the expectation of using them in their own defence. But it should be remembered that arms are now required for use, and that they cannot be made so effectual for the defence of the country in any way, as in the hands of organized troops. They are needed to enable our cavalry to cope with the well armed and equiped cavalry of the enemy, not only in the general service, but in resisting those predatory expeditions which have inflicted so much loss upon the people of the interior.

To the patriotic I need make no other appeal than the wants of the service; but I beg to remind those who are reluctant to part with the arms and equipments in their possession, that by keeping them they diminish the ability of the army to defend their property, without themselves deriving any benefit from them. I therefore urge all persons not in the service to deliver promptly, to some of the officers designated below, such arms and equipments (especially those suitable for cavalry) as they may have, and to report to those officers the names of such persons as neglect to surrender those in their possession.

Every citizen who prevents a carbine or pistol from remaining unused, will render a service to his country. Those who think to retain arms for their defence, should remember that if the army cannot protect them, the arms will be of little use. While no valid title can be acquired to public arms and equipments except from the Government, it is reported that many persons have ignorantly purchased them from private parties. A full compensation will, therefore, be made to all who deliver such arms and equipments to any ordnance officers, officer commanding at a post, officers and agents of the Quartermaster and Commissary Departments at any station, or officers in the Enrolling service, or connected with the Nitre and Mining Bureau. All these officers are requested and those connected with this army are directed to receive and receipt for all arms and equipments, whatever their condition, and forward the same, with a duplicate receipt, to the Ordnance Department at Richmond, and report their proceedings to these headquarters. The person holding the receipt will be compensated upon presenting it to the Ordnance Bureau. While it is hoped that no one will disregard this appeal, all officers connected with this army are required, and all others are requested, to take possession of any public arms and equipments they may find in the hands of persons unwilling to surrender them to the service of the country, and to give receipts therefor. A reasonable allowance for their expenses and trouble will be made to such patriotic citizens as will collect and deliver to any of the officers above designated such arms and equipments as they may find in the hands of persons not in the service, or who will report the same to those officers. A prompt compliance with this call will greatly promote the efficiency and strength of the army, particularly of the cavalry, and render it better able to protect the homes and property of the people from outrage.

R. E. LEE,
General.

The officers receiving arms or accoutrements under this appeal are requested to state upon the face of the duplicate receipts given by them the condition of the articles, whether in good order or otherwise; and if not in good order, the per centage which should be deducted on that account.

These receipts may be presented for payment to any one of the following named officers:

Capt J M Stevens, Richmond Arsenal, Richmond
Major B Randolph Stanton, Va
Major E S Hutter, Danville, Va
Capt G S Gatty, Lynchburg, Va
Capt Chas Semple, Wytheville, Va
Capt A G Brenizer, Salisbury, N C

By order of J GORGAS,
Brig General Cheif of Ordnance.

Official: J W HINSDALE, A A G.

*** State papers copy 3 times Feb 14-3t

NEGRO AUCTION,

ON TUESDAY THE 14TH, WE WILL SELL AT our Salesroom,

1 Woman and three children.
1 do and one child.
1 No. 1 House Girl, 14 years old.
1 do 1 do do 12 do do
1 do 1 do do 17 do do
1 No. 1 Seamstress.

Several others will be added to the list by sale day.

We will also hire for the balance of the year one excellent farm hand.

Feb 13-2t W. F. ASKEW & CO.

COUNTY TRUSTEE.

WE ARE REQUESTED TO ANNOUNCE LYNN ADAMS, Esq. as a Candidate for the office of County Trustee for Wake county.

If elected he will endeavor to attend faithfully to the duties of the office. Feb [illegible]

SCHEDULE OF PRICES FOR NORTH CAROLINA.

THE COMMISSIONERS OF APPRAISEMENT FOR the State of North Carolina present their Schedule of Prices to govern Purchasing Agents for the next sixty days, with rates considerably advanced in consequence of the advance by order of the government in the prices paid above those of the late schedule. They earnestly hope that there now being no excuse for holding back the products so necessary to the supply of the army, that farmers and others will come forward with alacrity and offer all that they can possibly from their own consumption to the aid of that army, which is now at last to be recognized as our only saviour from the unrestrained and grasping despotism of our barbarous enemy:

Apples, dried,	good, peeled, per bush 28 lbs	$10 00
do	unpeeled, per bush 28 lbs	7 50
Axes,	with handles, each,	18 50
do	without handles, each,	16 00
Bacon,	per pound, hog round,	4 50
Beans,	white or cornfield, per bush 60 pounds	10 50
Brandy,	apple, per gallon,	10 00
do	peach, per gallon,	10 00
Beef,	fresh, nett per pound,	2 00
do	fresh, gross, per pound,	1 00
do	salted, per pound,	2 50
Candles,	tallow, per pound,	5 00
do	adamantine, per pound,	10 00
Chains,	trace, per pair,	16 00
Cloth,	wollen for soldiers clothes, 3 4 yard wide, 10 oz. to yard, and *pro rata* as to greater or less weight or width, per yard,	15 00
Cotton,	raw, per lb,	3 50
Coffee,	Rio, per pound,	12 50
Corn,	unshelled, per bush 70 lbs,	12 00
Corn Meal,	sacks not included, per bush of 50 pounds,	13 20
Drills,	cotton, 7 8 yd wide, 3 yards to pound, per yd,	2 00
Flour,	extra family, per bbl 196 lbs,	100 00
"	extra superfine, per bbl 196 lbs,	90 00
"	superfine, per bbl 196 lbs,	80 00
"	fine, per barrel of 196 lbs,	70 00
Fodder,	bales, per 100 pounds,	8 00
"	unbaled, per 100 pounds,	7 50
Hats,	wool, each,	8 00
Hay,	baled, per 100 pounds,	8 00
"	unbaled, per 100 pounds,	7 50
Hides,	dry, extra, per pound,	6 00
Hides,	" "	5 00
do	green, per pound,	2 50
Horses,	artillery, 1st class, per head,	1,500 00
do	artillery, 2d class, per head,	1200 00
House rent,	per room per month	40 00
Iron,	Pig, No 1, per ton 2,000 lbs	350 00
do	Pig, No 2, per ton, 2,000 lbs	314 00
do	Pig, No 3, per ton, 2,000 lbs	278 00
do	Bloom, per ton, 2,000 lbs	710 00
do	Smith's square or round per ton of 2,000 lbs	1,030 00
do	serviceable railroad, per ton of 2 240 pounds	400 00
Jeans,	wool, domestic, per yard	15 00
Kettles,	camp, iron, per pound,	2 00
Lumber,	good, per 1,000 feet	60 00
Lard,	per pound	4 50
Leather,	sole, per pound	10 00
do	upper per pound	12 00
do	harness, per pound	12 00
Molasses,	sorghum, per gallon	15 00
Mules,	1st class, per head,	1,500 0
do	2d class, per head	1200 00
do	3d class, per head	800 00
Mechanics,	1st class, per day, rations by government,	10 00
	2d class, per day, rations by government,	8 00
Nails,	per keg	200 00
Oats,	sheaf, baled, per 100 lbs	10 00
do	sheaf, unbaled, pr 100 lbs	9 25
do	shelled, per bushel	8 00
Osnaburgs,	cotton, 3 4 yard wide, 7 oz to yard, per yard,	2 50
do	cotton, 7 8 yard wide, 8 oz to yard, per yard,	2 75
Onions,	per bushel,	12 00
Oxen,	work, 1st quality, per yoke	1500 00
do	2d quality, per yoke	1000 00
Peas,	cow, per bush of 60 lbs	15 00
Potatoes,	Irish, per bush of 60 lbs	8 00
do	sweet, per bush of 60 lbs	8 00
Peach's dried,	per bush of 38 lbs	13 50
do	unpeeled, per bush of 38 lbs	10 00
Pork,	fresh, nett, per pound,	2 50
do.	salted, per pound,	2 90
do	gross	2 00
Pasturage,	1st quality, near town, per head, per month,	8 00
do	common, near town, per month,	5 00
do.	1st quality, in the country, per head, per month,	7 00
do	common, in country, per head, per month,	4 00
Quinine,	good, per ounce,	60 00
Rice,	new, per pound,	1 50
do	old, per pound,	1 10
Rye,	good, per bush of 56 lbs,	12 00
Rosin,	per bbl of 280 lbs	3 00
do	in bulk of 280 lbs	50
Sacks,	two bushels, osnaburgs, each,	6 00
Shirting,	cotton, 3/4 yard wide, 4½ yards to pound, per yard,	1 75
do	cotton, 7 8 yard wide, 3¾ yard to pound, per yard,	1 10
Cotton strips,	3 yards to pound, pr yd	3 75
Salt,	Coast, per bush of 50 lbs,	40 00
do	Liverpool, per bush of 50 lbs,	50 00
do	Virginia, per bush of 50 lbs,	45 00
Steel,	cast, per pound,	10 00
Shoes,	army, per pair,	25 00
Shoe thread,	flax, per pound,	10 00
Socks,	soldier's wool, per pair,	4 00
Sheep,	fat, per head,	60 00
Sugar,	brown common, per lb,	5 00
Soap,	hard, per pound,	2 00
do	soft, per pound,	1 25
Shucks,	baled, 100 lbs,	8 00
Shorts,	good, per bush of 22 lbs,	1 75
Ship stuff,	good per bush of 27 lbs,	2 40
Tea,	black, per pound,	10 00
do	green, per pound,	18 00
Tent cloth,	cotton, 10 oz. to yd, per yard,	3 50
Tobacco,	No 1, extra,	3 00
do	No 1,	2 50
do	No 2,	1 75
do	Lugs,	1 25
Tallow,	clean, per pound,	4 50
Vinegar,	cider, per gallon,	4 00
do	manufactured, per gal	2 00
Whiskey,	good, per gallon	10 00
Wheat,	good, per bush of 60 lbs	15 00
do	bran, per bush of 17 lbs	1 50
Wheat straw,	baled, per 100 lbs	2 75
do do	unbaled, per 100 lbs	2 00
Wool,	washed, per pound	12 00
do	unwashed, per pound	10 00
Wagons,	wood axle, 4 horse, new, each	700 00
"	wood axle, 2 horse, new each	500 00
Yarn,	cotton, per bunch of 5 lbs	15 00

HIRE OF LABOR, TEAMS, WAGONS AND HORSES.

Baling long forage, per hundred pounds	1 00
Shelling and bagging corn, sacks furnished by government, per bushel,	25
Hire of two horse teams, wagon and driver, rations furnished by owner, per day,	18 00
Hire of two horse teams, wagon and driver, rations furnished by government, per day	12 00
Hire of four horse teams, wagon and driver, rations furnished by owner, per day,	30 00
Hire of four horse teams, wagon and driver, rations furnished by the government, per day	30 00
Hire of six horse teams, wagon and driver, rations furnished by owner, per day	36 00
Hire of six horse teams, wagon and driver, rations furnished by government, per day	24 00
Hire of laborer, rations furnished by owner, per day	6 00
Hire of laborer, rations furnished by government, per day	4 00
Hire of laborer, rations furnished by owner,	110 00
Hire of laborer, rations furnished by government, per month	65 00
Hire of horse, per day	4 00

The Commissioners respectfully suggest that if it be found practical, the producer should be allowed to retain a fourth part of their surplus, to be sold at market rates, to pay for their necessary plantation supplies, which they have to purchase at high market prices. They earnestly call upon the farmers to bring forward their corn now so necessary to the support of the army in their immediate front, and which alone will prevent the loss to the enemy, of all their crops, stock, negroes, &c., &c. The commissioners would also recommend that the impressment should be universal and uniform, leaving out no one.

For the information of all persons concerned, we publish the following instructions, with the hope that they will be strictly obeyed.

"No officer, or agent, shall impress the necessary supplies which any person may have for the consumption of himself, his family, employees, slaves, or to carry on his ordinary mechanical, manufacturing or agricultural employments"

The next meeting of the Board will be held in the Senate Chamber, in the City of Raleigh, on Monday, the 3d day of April next, unless sooner changed. Impressing agents must furnish good and satisfactory reasons for disapprovals on appeals, or the award of local appraisers will be approved. All communications should be addressed to the Secretary of the Board, Raleigh, N. C.

(Signed) H. K. BURGWYN
Garysburg, N. C.
R. V. BLACKSTOCK,
Stocksville, N. C.
Com's Appraisement for State of N. C.

Raleigh, Feb 10-tf

ADVERTISING RATES.

The following rates will be charged for all advertisements inserted in the *Daily* and *Weekly Progress*:

ONE SQUARE OF EIGHT LINES, OR LESS.

One day	$5 00	One week	$30 00
Two days	10 00	Two weeks	60 00
Three days	15 00	Three weeks	90 00
Four days	20 00	One month	120 00
Five days	25 00	Two months	240 00

Fifty words, or eight lines or less, count a square, and additional squares will be charged the same. Advertisements inserted once, twice or three times a week will be charged $4 a square for every insertion.

When sent by letter, the money must accompany the advertisement. Marriages, Deaths, Religious and other Notices charged as advertisements, and must be paid in advance.

1865. Counting-House 1865 CALENDAR.

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	W'd'day	Thu'day	Friday	Sat'day		Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed'day	Thu'day	Friday	Sat'day
JAN	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	JULY							1
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28		16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	29	30	31						23	24	25	26	27	28	29
FEB				1	2	3	4		30	31					
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	AUG'T			1	2	3	4	5
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25		13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	26	27	28						20	21	22	23	24	25	26
MAR.				1	2	3	4		27	28	29	30	31		
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	SEPT						1	2
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25		10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	26	27	28	29	30	31			17	18	19	20	21	22	23
APRIL							1		24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	OCT'R	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15		8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22		15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29		22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	30								29	30	31				
MAY		1	2	3	4	5	6	NOV				1	2	3	4
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20		12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27		19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	28	29	30	31					62	27	28	29	30		
JUNE					1	2	3	DEC'R						1	2
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17		10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24		17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	25	26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
									31						

DIRECTORY FOR CONFEDERATE GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN THE CITY OF RALEIGH

Col **WM J CLARKE**, Commandant of Post—Headquarters on Fayetteville street, opposite the new Bank Building.

Maj **PETER MALLETT**, Commandant of Conscripts—Headquarters in rear of new Bank Building, and on same lot, West of Fayetteville street.

Lieut Gen **T H HOLMES**, Commandant of Reserves—Headquarters on Hillsboro' street, West of Exchange Hotel.

Maj **H R HOOPER**, Chief Quartermaster District of N C—Headquarters in old Guion Hotel, North of Capitol Square.

Maj **W J BAKER**, Post Commissary—Headquarters Guion Hotel.

Maj **H R HOOPER**, Quartermaster on General Holmes' Staff—Headquarters head of Hillsboro' Street, near residence of Judge Saunders.

Capt **J W HINSDALE, A A G**, on Gen Holmes' Staff—Headquarters with Gen Holmes.

Capt **A W LAWRENCE**, Ordnance Officer.

Surgeon **PETER E HINES**, Medical Director—Headquarters West side of Fayetteville street, opposite Market Square.

Surgeon **E B HAYWOOD** in charge of Pettigrew Hospital, No 13, (head of Newbern street)—Headquarters at Hospital.

Surgeon **H G LEIGH**, in charge of Hospital, No 8, (Peace Institute)—Headquarters at Hospital.

Surgeon **J W TRACY**, in charge of General Hospital, No 7, (Fair Grounds)—Headquarters at Hospital.

Capt **W E PIERCE**, Post Quartermaster—Headquarters Guion Hotel.

Rev Dr **DRURY LACY**, Post Chaplain

Surgeon **THOMAS HILL**, Chief Surgeon—Headquarters with Gen Holmes.

Rev **F FITZGERALD**, Chaplain Hospitals No 7 and 13.

DIRECTORY FOR STATE GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN THE CITY OF RALEIGH

Maj Gen **R C GATLIN**, Adjutant General—Headquarters at Guion Hotel.

Dr **ED WARREN**, Surgeon General—Headquarters on East side of Fayetteville street, near the Capitol.

Maj **Wm B GULICK**, Paymaster—Headquarters at Guion Hotel.

Maj **JOHN DEVEREUX**, Quartermaster—Headquarters at Guion Hotel.

Maj **T D HOGG**, Commissary and Ordnance Officer—Headquarters at Guion Hotel.

Maj **HENRY A DOWD**, Quartermaster—Headquarters Northeast corner of Fayetteville and Hargett streets, up stairs.

Maj **JAMES H FOOTE**, Assistant Adjutant General, (Roll of Honor)—Headquarters at Guion Hotel.

Maj **WM A GRAHAM**, Jr, Assistant Adjutant General—Headquarters at Guion Hotel.

Lieut **JOSIAH COLLINS**, Ordnance Department—Headquarters at Guion Hotel.

Lieut **THOMAS WHITE** Assistant Quartermaster—Headquarters at Guion Hotel.

Lieut **ISAAC W GARRETT**, Assistant Quartermaster—Headquarters with Maj Dowd.

Lieut **THADDEUS McGEE**, Assistant Commissary—Headquarters with Maj Dowd.

Lieut **CHARLES H THOMPSON**, Assistant Commissary—Headquarters at Store House, near N C Depot.

Lieut **GEO W THOMPSON**, Assistant Adjutant General, (Roll of Honor)—Headquarters with Maj Foote.

Lieut **THOMAS W SLOCUM**, Assistant Adjutant General—Headquarters at Guion Hotel.

☞ **Rags Wanted.**—Forty cents a pound will be paid for all clean cotton or linen rags delivered at the

DAILY PROGRESS.

RALEIGH, N. C.

TUESDAY, FEB. 14, 1865.

WATCH FOR THE CROSS MARK.

To save our subscribers the trouble of making enquiries by letter, we shall hereafter make a cross mark on the margin of the paper when the time paid for is about to expire, and if not promptly renewed the paper will be stopped. Watch for the cross mark and send on money to renew in time.

RATES FOR SUBSCRIPTION AND ADVERTISING.

The following are our only rates for subscription and advertising. Persons ordering the paper by mail should give the post office, county and State in full, and be particular to say whether the Daily or Weekly paper is wanted. Cash must accompany all orders for subscriptions and advertising:

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

Daily Progress, six months	[illegible]
" " Three months	20 00
" " One month	10 00
Weekly Progress, three months	10 00
" " six months	20 00

ADVERTISING RATES.

All advertisements per square, of eight lines of solid minion type, or less, $5 00 for every insertion.

The Wilmington *Journal* estimates Sherman's force at not more than forty thousand men.—This estimate may be correct, but we fear it is not. Sherman was understood to have left Atlanta with from 55,000 to 60,000 men, and at Savannah he formed a junction with Foster, who was supposed to be in command of 15,000 to 20,000 men. Take from these two armies the losses in the fights on the Savannah and Charleston road, and the number necessary to garrison Savannah, and Sherman must have at the present moment, if these estimates be correct, at least 60,000 men. If he only has forty thousand, of all arms, he ought not to be allowed to march through South Carolina as he did through Georgia; for the militia of that State, co-operating with the veteran force understood to be there, ought to be able to resist them.

We trust that the *Journal's* estimate may turn out to be correct, but if so we shall be disappointed. We certainly have more to fear from Sherman's present movement than from any other army operating against us, and all the energies of the government should be employed to arrest his progress and destroy his army.—This done, and communication with Georgia and the South can be re-established, and supplies obtained from that region for our army in Virginia; besides relieving the people of a large portion of the Confederacy from evils and oppressions that they now endure. We think now as we have thought from the commencement of the war, that our forces have been too much scattered for the defence of coast towns and cities. Blockade speculation now being at an end we can't see much benefit to accrue to our cause by attempts to hold these places on the coast. It is very well known that a considerable army has been employed, for the last three years and more, in holding Wilmington, Charleston and Savannah—men enough we have no doubt to have turned the tide of battle in many desperate conflicts, in our favor. It is supposed that the authorities who direct military operations ought to know best, and yet we can but think the policy pursued a bad one.

War Meeting in Richmond—Speeches, &c.

There was a great war meeting in Richmond at noon on Thursday last, and several speeches were made on the occasion. Propositions were made to free and arm the slaves, which received the approval of exempts and speculators present. After Mr. Hunter and other gentlemen had addressed the assemblage, Judah P. Benjamin, Mr. Davis' Secretary of State, made a long speech. We quote passages of this speech, as it brings out some of the secret history of the attempt to negotiate for peace; still it will be seen that some is kept back.

HOW THE COMMISSIONERS CAME TO BE SENT.

Mr. Benjamin said: It is due to you to know how this peace commission came to be sent, and the facts which preceded their going. The Emperor Lincoln sent us this message at the close of last year, two months before the commissioners were sent. [Mr. Benjamin here read from Lincoln's message, relative to the futility of any attempt at negotiation with the "insurgent leader;" that he had left no room for doubt or hope.] Six weeks afterwards, continued Mr. Benjamin, there came a man from Washington who was known to be the intimate friend of Lincoln and an adviser in his councils. He had a confidential interview with our President, the nature of which I am aware of, but am not at liberty to disclose. When he left, he took with him a letter from the President, in these words:

"SIR: I am ready to confer for peace at any time; and, notwithstanding the refusal of previous offers, if I had any assurance that they would be received, I would send commissioners to confer upon some measures that would restore peace to the *two countries*."

I believed, said Mr. Benjamin, that Blair was Lincoln's messenger. Had he casually denied it once, I should have believed him; but when he repeated it five or six times, I did not believe him. What was the answer from Lincoln to Blair? "As you have shown me the note of Mr. Davis, you may say to him that I will see any messenger informally sent to confer upon measures to restore peace to our *one country*."

Under these circumstances, our friends went forward for conference. Each was furnished with a copy of the letter written by Mr. Lincoln, and at the bottom was written, by our President, "You will go forward and confer with the enemy upon means to restore peace to the *two countries*."

That was all, except the confidential interview of Blair with the *President*, which I cannot relate in the presence of so many people. I believe, contrary to the honorable gentleman who preceded me, that when Blair came to Richmond, there was an opportunity for suspending fighting and bloodshed, in which time measures might be taken for the restoration of peace; but none of us, for a moment, dreamed of reconstruction. Is it wonderful that our President, whose only defect is that he is too tender-hearted, should have yielded to the temptation of trying to stop the bloodshed of his countrymen, of which every drop seemed to come from his own heart? [Applause.] The Yankee President was confident [illegible] of his own theory—which we were [illegible] what better could we do than send him to attempt to make a favorable impression upon the enemy? [illegible] the people, [illegible] the only element necessary to success. We hear it now in the improvement of public sentiment.

* * * *

WANTS MORE MEN—A DEMAND FOR THE NEGROES.

I want another thing. War is a game that cannot be played without men. [Cheers.] Where are the men? I am going to open my whole heart to you. Look to the trenches below Richmond. Is it not a shame that men who have sacrificed all in our defence should not be reinforced by all the means in our power? [illegible] at any time now for antiquated prejudices to argue a refusal to send them aid, be it white or black? [A voice—"Put in the niggers"—and cheers.]

I will now call your attention to some figures, which I wish you to seriously ponder. In 1860, the South had 1,004,000 arms-bearing men. How many men have the Yankees sent against us? In 1861, 654,000; in 1862, 740,000; in 1863, 700,000; in 1864, they called out 1,500,000. Here you have the figures that they brought out 3,000,000 men, against 1,004,000 Confederates, who lived at the beginning of the war to draw the sword in their country's service. Our [illegible] of white population have greatly diminished; but you had 680,000 black men of the same ages; and could Divine prophecy have told us of the fierceness of the enemy's death-grapple at our throats—could we have known what we now know, that Lincoln has confessed that without the 200,000 negroes which he stole from us he would be compelled to give up the contest, should we have entertained any doubt upon the subject? [A voice—"We will make him give it up yet."]

I feel that the time is rapidly coming on when the people will wonder that they ever doubted. Let us say to every negro who wishes to go into the ranks on condition of being made free—"Go and fight; you are free." If we press them, they will go against us. We know that every one who could fight for his freedom has had no chance. The only side that has had the advantage of this element is the Yankee—a people that can beat us to the end of the year in making bargains. Let us imitate them in this—I would imitate them in nothing else. My own negroes have been to me and said: "Master, set us free, and we will fight for you; we had rather fight for you than for the Yankees." But suppose it should not be so—there is no harm in trying. With all my early attachments and prejudices, I would give up all. It can only be done by the States separately. What State will lead off in this thing? [A voice—"Virginia."] If separate State counsels had been followed, we would now have been bound hand and foot to the Yankees. What State led off in the Revolution? South Carolina.

One State after another wheeled into line, until at last, when there, far away in the South, every eye was turned northward—when men were asking, day by day, what of old Virginia?—it was telegraphed that she was going to desert the South, that a majority were in favor of the Union. We honored Virginia as the Mother of States and of statesmen—gloried in her as part of our possessions. We had men from Virginia all about us, and were bound to her by indissoluble ties Day after day came the same tidings—Virginia will not come. ("Who said it?")—Everybody said it, and it was true until Lincoln insulted you. Then the telegraph wires flashed the news—Virginia has seceded! Such a spectacle never before greeted my eyes. Men whose faces looked like the parchment upon which their bonds were written, rushed into the streets, danced, hugged and kissed each other. Cannon were fired and it was a great day. South Carolina, I know, will follow Virginia, as well as every other Southern State, if she but give the lead. When shall it be done? ("Now.") Now. Let your Legislature pass the necessary laws, and we will soon have twenty thousand men down in those trenches fighting for the country. You must make up your mind to try that, or see your army withdrawn from before your town. I came here to say disagreeable things. I tell you, you are in danger unless some radical measure be taken. I know not where the white men are. It is said there are quartermaster's clerks, railroad employees, and men in bomb-proofs—but I tell you there are not enough able-bodied white men in the country. Do you suppose we have worked night after night, by this infamous gas-light you have here, and not found out this thing? My honorable friend has told you that deserters and skulkers would come in. Possible. But where is Tennessee, and other States that were formerly relied on? You have a part of Virginia, part of North Carolina, part of South Carolina, and part of other States. What else? [A voice—"Texas."] Texas She is beyond our reach. Would that she were not.

Mr. Benjamin then spoke of Louisiana and her shattered brigades; of Starke and Stafford, who have laid down their lives in our service; of Nichols, who, wounded and disabled, resigned his commission, which the President refused to receive, and placed him in what some call a "bomb-proof"—in the conscription bureau of Louisiana; of Harry Hayes, who was repeatedly wounded in the service; and of Yorke, who is in North Carolina, endeavoring to raise recruits among the Irish Catholics. Louisiana has done much, but you cannot make a step forward that she will not follow you.

* * * * * *

NO PEACE THIS YEAR.

Mr. Benjamin said he saw no prospect of a cessation of this struggle during the present year. Let every man stand up and nerve his heart in the contest. The enemy was utterly unable to continue this war beyond the present campaign. Let us stand up firmly, and we shall be free.

In conclusion, Mr. Benjamin drew a beautiful picture of peace and its consequent blessings, and said all that and more awaited us if we nerved ourselves as we ought to for this last struggle.

Mr. Gilmer, M. C., from the 5th N. C. Congressional district, followed Mr. Benjamin, in which he took strong grounds for a vigorous prosecution of the war, but did not commit himself on the negro question.

Benjamin frankly says to the people that our only hope for success and independence is in the arming of the negro; and if this be so there is not a bright spot upon the horizon, for the Southern slaves will never conquer and humble the United States government.

RESCUED!—A few days since, about eight or nine miles from this place, a deserter and prisoner, en route for Greensboro', in the High Point stage, was released by a band of brother deserters, who emerged from the woods, and one of the number, with cocked pistol in hand, stopping the coach, demanded the prisoner, who was permitted by the guard to make good his escape. Resistance in that case, it is admitted, would have been in vain, as the passengers in the stage were outnumbered by the rescuers, two or three to one.—*Salem Press.*

HON. THOMAS BENNETT, Ex-Governor of South Carolina died on the 30th ult., at Anderson Courthouse.

WAR NEWS.

"GRAPE VINES."

Under this heading the Wilmington *Carolinian* of Saturday has the following:

Sherman has tapped the South Carolina railroad at three different points. His main column advanced on Branchville, from which [illegible] retired without fighting, and assumed a position at Shuck's Corners, a small village between Branchville and Kingsville. The enemy, it is said, is now advancing on Augusta, having learned that we had a strong force posted at various points between him and Kingsville.

It would seem that the usually quiet denizens of Little River, and the surrounding country, have been recently disturbed by the landing of a considerable force of Yankees in their midst. It is understood that the object is to strike the Manchester railroad, at a point in the vicinity of Whiteville, in Columbus county.

Who were the ladies that attended the raising of the Yankee flag at Smithville, recently? Can any body tell? We should like to know

The air in our own town, yesterday, seemed very much impregnated with some strange whisperings in relation to important movements, which we decline publishing, as we are [illegible] and officially reticent.

CHARLESTON.

The *Mercury* of Saturday says:

A force of the enemy, believed to be between three and four thousand strong, under cover of their gunboats, made a landing at Grimball's place, on James Island, about 8 o'clock yesterday morning. A brisk fight ensued with our pickets, the latter being finally driven in to our first line of works Major Manigault is reported to have been killed in the skirmishing, but some doubt is expressed as to the correctness of the report.

The enemy, at last accounts, were drawn up in line of battle and advancing slowly, but no general fight had taken place.

Active demonstrations have also been made along our lines on the Salkehatchie In an attack there yesterday morning, the enemy were easily repulsed. Another force advanced upon the Charleston road, near Blue House, and opened with artillery, but made no impression on our lines. Everything was quiet at Combahee Ferry.

SHERMAN.

Of Sherman's movements the *Mercury* of the 11th, says:

The only intelligence we get from Sherman is that his infantry had crossed the Edisto at Benaker's Bridge on Thursday and are reported moving, in solid columns, against Augusta.

IS CHARLESTON TO BE EVACUATED?

We suggested, yesterday, the probable evacuation of Charleston. The following from the *Mercury*, of Saturday, strengthens our convictions.

To our Readers.—The progress of military events, which has occasioned so much public and private inconvenience and suffering, has not spared the newspaper interest The interruption of railroad communication between Charleston and the interior produces a state of affairs which compels us, temporarily, to transfer the publication office of the *Mercury* elsewhere; and to-day's paper will be our last issue, for the present, in the city of Charleston. It is due to our readers that they should be informed of the reasons which necessitate so important a step in the management of our journal. The interruption of the mails on the South Carolina Railroad practically cuts us off from the mass of our country readers; not only in this but all the adjoining States. We consider it highly desirable that the paper should reach this large class; and by the contemplated change we trust to accomplish that end. But a far more important consideration, and one which cannot be overlooked, is the question of our paper supply. Few of our readers have any idea of the enormous quantity of paper required for the daily consumption of our establishment The paper mill upon which we depend for our supply is situated in Western North Carolina, and as things stand, for want of transportation, there is no chance of a continuance of that supply. So that we have the alternatives presented to us, of being obliged to discontinue the *Mercury*, for want of the material upon which to print it, or of removing, for a time, our publication office to another more convenient point. Justice to our subscribers, no less than our own preference, impels us to the latter course.

For a few days, therefore, the issue of the *Mercury* will be suspended; but soon, we trust, it will revisit all our readers.

PETERSBURG.

The *Express* of Saturday says:

There is no change in the military situation on the right since our last report. The enemy is confronted at every point of his new lines by our troops, and at present shows no other disposition than to strengthen his works. When pretty strongly fortified, Grant may see proper to attempt another extension.

On the 23d ult., a detachment of Capt. Shadburne's Scouts tapped the Yankee telegraph wire, in about one mile of Cabin Point. The Yankees soon discovered the disconnection, and sent out an operator, and an ambulance, containing material for repairs, guarded by an escort of thirty-five negro cavalry, to discover and re-establish the break. When the party came in sight, our scouts charged them, killing eleven of the negroes, capturing twenty-four horses, the ambulance and material, the operator and driver, and put the balance of the negroes to flight.—The captures were safely brought off. The only loss among the scouts in this affair, was one killed—a man named Morris, formerly in the Yankee service, but who, since he had joined our scouts, has behaved on many occasions in the bravest and most acceptable manner. Since their operations in Grant's rear, Capt. Shadburne's scouts have turned over to the Government 120 horses, 80 mules and some valuable material.

We learn that Grant has thoroughly fortified his army in the rear. He is now nearly as strong in that quarter as he is in front. This is done in order to prevent raids similar to Gen. Hampton's celebrated cattle expedition. Every road is strongly barricaded, and heavy lines of works extend in every direction.

The Yankees have recently extended their [illegible] lines from near [illegible] Station, [illegible] miles towards Monk's Neck Bridge, in connection with their late movement on Hatcher's Run.

THE FIGHT AT HATCHER'S RUN.

The following extract from a letter from the army informs us that Johnson's North Carolina brigade bore a conspicuous part in the recent fight at Hatcher's Run:

Since writing to you on yesterday, notwithstanding the severe snow and sleet which now bids fair to put an end to military operations on these lines, there has been an almost continuous engagement near Hatcher's run. Shortly after writing yesterday morning, our division (Gordon's) was ordered back to camp. All were congratulating themselves that the movement was over, and were preparing warm dinners, when suddenly orders came to move at once. Many a poor soldier looked back with disappointment at his dough just ready for the oven, or his peas, not yet boiling briskly; yet they moved off cheerfully, and soon came up to the assistance of Johnson's brigade of North Carolina troops, who were on picket opposite the point at which, on Sunday, our picket line was captured This brigade acted nobly; and although the enemy advanced in force upon their picket line with two whole corps, they held their ground until reinforced by Evan's and Pegram's divisions, of Gordon's corps, who marched from camp, a distance of near four miles, after the advance of the enemy was known. The contest for some time was varying. The enemy occupied temporary breastworks parallel with Moccasin creek; but when Gordon's command arrived upon the field they had advanced some distance beyond them.

Our line wavered soon after the engagement and fell back near a small creek, but again went forward with varying success.

Three distinct charges were made, which were as often repulsed Once a portion of their works was carried, but not being supported either on the right or left, they were soon lost The contest hung doubtful until about sunset, when, reinforced by Mahone's division, we drove them from the works across Moccasin creek. We held the field; and although the enemy had confronted us all day with two corps and a part of a third, it is sufficient to know that Gen. Lee was in person on the field, and that his watchful eye, by the help of God, will detect any movement in time to be prepared to meet it with telling effect whenever and wherever they may see fit to advance

ARMING THE SLAVES.

Strange to say, one of the leading administration papers in this State still holds out against the administration measure to arm the slaves.—The Wilmington *Journal*, in a late issue, says:

As a general rule our negroes prove faithful, and will probably continue to do so, so long as the enemy puts them in the army, and we do not. In this difference we have our main guarantee for their fidelity. Remove this guarantee and what other have we?

We may say—we may feel—yea, we may know that we are truer friends of the colored race than the enemy, but that knowledge or belief on our part is not all that is needed. The colored race must share that impression—must be led to feel that this is their country, and that they have an interest in fighting for it. Can we feel any assurance of this? We offer them freedom *after the war*, as the reward of their services in the war. The enemy offers it *immediately* to all. In any case the boon is a doubtful one, but by offering it as a reward—as inducement for service—we virtually admit that it *is* a boon, and the negroes will be led to so consider it. Will they be disposed to take it from us as a contingency *after the war*, or from the Yankees at once? It is true, once in the hands of the enemy, they will find what sort of freedom they will get from *them*, but then it will be too late.

It is true, that with freedom, we may offer the negro the privilege of a continued residence in the country and upon the soil of his birth, with the climate that suits his temperament and constitution, but will not the Yankees promise the same and more by way of an offset to any inducements we may hold out to secure the fidelity of the negro? It will cost the Yankee government nothing to promise lands and other confiscated property of Southern people, and it is probable that the negroes will be fools enough to believe them.

Desertions are now the bane of our armies and threaten to work the ruin of our country. Deserters are not simply guilty of sins of omission by being absent from the ranks that defend the country, but they are almost always guilty of sins of commission in preventing cultivation and committing acts of robbery and destruction, and men cannot be spared to repress these outrages and compel the return of these men to their commands. How much will the list of desertions be swelled if two hundred thousand reluctant negroes are to be armed and placed in the ranks to contribute their quota? Is it not to be feared that every swamp will be a lair—a lurking place of deserters of every hue? What safety will there be for property?—what chance for cultivation when the most able-bodied laborers are taken away from the ranks of the producers to whom they will become liable to become a terror.

We do not include in our calculation the mere question of property *as* property. Where the lives of the best and bravest are daily and hourly exposed, we do not see what extra sanctity can hedge in any mere question of property. The question takes in simply the practicability of the scheme—the probability of its success, and the consequences likely to flow from or to accompany it. We confess that there may be considerations that we have overlooked, or we may have attached undue weight to the unfavorable aspects of the question, but however that may be, candor compels us to say that our reflections have not as yet had the effect of commending the measure to our judgment. The more we look at the thing, the more strongly does our mind revert to its first conclusion. The fidelity of the negro is secured to us by not putting him in the army, while the enemy *does*. The carrying out of the measure of arming our negroes, would, we fear, result in a speedy crop of deserters of the most dangerous class.

We know that others whose opinions carry much weight, entertain different views, and we submit the considerations above offered with all due humility. They may be mistaken, still they are [illegible] of reflection, and are given for what they may be worth

LOCAL AND STATE NEWS.

This is St. Valentine's day. We have heard it said that the birds choose their mates to-day. If they wish to sleep warm we would advise them to do so. Wonder how old batchelors fare these nights! On this day, too, many good housewives insist on sowing peas, planting potatoes, &c. It is generally regarded as the day inaugurating Spring, but the probabilities of its doing so this year are as slim as those for negotiating peace. How frequently we have seen buds and blossoms at this time; and now the earth is frozen hard and the North winds almost chill the marrow in our bones. No seed planting to-day—nor any but second-hand valentines. We trust old Winter will soon yield, though he now seems as stubborn as Davis or Lincoln.

STRAY BABY.—We learn that a respectably looking female got off the cars at Hillsboro' the other night, leaving her baggage and bundles. The said female not returning before the cars left, her baggage and bundles were carried on to the Shops, by which time the conductor discovered that one of the bundles contained a very young infant. It was cared for, and is still at the Shops. We trust this notice may lead to the detection of the unnatural parent.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—The Charlotte *Bulletin* says that Mr. A C. Miller, a very worthy citizen of that county, who resided five miles from Charlotte, on the Statesville road, was instantly killed on Friday afternoon, 10th inst. Near where his negroes were cutting down a tree on a piece of new ground, he saw a dog lying by a fire, and thinking the animal in danger, started to drive him out of the reach of the branches of the tree. While doing so the tree fell on him, killing him instantly.

VARMENT MARKET.—Monday morning is generally a good time to buy rabbits and 'possums in our market, and yesterday morning afforded an excellent opportunity. Poor rabbits were $5 each—'possums whatever was demanded. We suppose darkies and others hunt Saturday nights and Sundays, and bring their game to market Monday mornings.

COL. CLARKE A PRISONER.—We learn that Col. W. J. Clarke, Commandant of the Post at this place, was picked up by the Yankees a few days ago, near Dinwiddie C. H. Va. We have not learned any particulars, but presume he had gone to Virginia on business

MEETING OF SOLDIERS AT PETTIGREW HOSPITAL.—We find the following proceedings of a meeting held at the Pettigrew Hospital, in this city, on Saturday night the 11th instant, in the *Confederate*.

At a meeting of the soldiers in the several Hospitals in this city, held at Pettigrew Hospital, Saturday evening 11th inst., Surgeon Tracy, of General Hospital No 7, was called to the chair, and Messrs. Lawrence, of General Hospital, No 8, and Pettis, of Pettigrew Hospital, appointed secretaries.

Upon motion the chair appointed Capt. Gorman 2nd N. C. Infantry, Lt Mitchel 14th N. C Infantry, and Private Walker, Co. H, 30th N. C. Regiment, as a committee to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting.

During the absence of the committee Rob. Sidney Smith, Co. D. 47th N. C Regiment was called upon to address the meeting, which he did in a strain of stirring eloquence. The committee then appeared and reported the following preamble and resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, Our government has made repeated efforts to negotiate an honorable peace, and has always failed, because of the refusal of our enemies to meet us for negotiation; and, whereas, the last effort through Messrs. Stephens, Hunter and Campbell, has been shown to be a deception of the enemy; and whereas, the occasion was seized by our enemy to insult our people with the degrading offer of submission by which our houses, property, liberties and lives, are put at the mercy of a false and unscrupulous foe; and whereas, the enemy has refused to negotiate with the Confederacy or with the States. Therefore,

1. *Resolved*, That no people who set a value on the inherent rights of man, who regard honor or liberty, could accede to such terms

2. *Resolved*, That nothing is left us but to continue to defend ourselves against invasion; and that to this end we should employ all the means of the nation; and that all men who have bone, muscle, arms and strength, are fit to be used in this struggle—whatever may be their color—as their interests are identical.

3. *Resolved*, That we implore the protection of Almighty God, and pledge to each other our power, our faith and our lives, and all the property we possess, to maintain this conflict for liberty and independence to its successful termination.

After the adoption of the resolutions, the meeting was addressed by Lt. Hall, 9th Virginia cavalry, and Surgeon Tracy.

After which, the meeting adjourned.

W. J. LAWRENCE, }
M. M. PETTIS, } Secretaries.

HIDES,
COPPERAS,
SALT,
LINSEED OIL,
TANNERS OIL
For sale by
D. W. C. BENBOW,
Greensboro, N. C.
Feb 11-2t
** Confederate copy 3 times.

OIL FOR SALE.
20 BBLS. TANNERS OIL,
20 " Cotton Seed Oil,
5 " Linseed Oil.
Apply to
W. R. MILLER,
Neuse Oil Mills,
Raleigh, N. C.
Feb 11-d3t